

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims supersedes all previous listings of claims in this matter.

1. – 70. (Cancelled).

71. (Previously Presented) At least one self-steering apparatus fitting for use in a railroad car truck between a wheelset bearing and a sideframe pedestal, said self-steering apparatus fitting comprising at least one of:

- (a) a bearing adapter for mounting to a casing of a bearing on a wheelset, said bearing adapter being for use in combination with at least one other fitting of the self-steering apparatus, said at least one other fitting including at least a pedestal seat; said bearing adapter having a rolling contact engagement surface for orientation facing away from the wheelset when installed; and said bearing adapter rolling contact engagement surface has a fore-and-aft arcuate profile permitting rolling contact rocking of the wheelset bearing lengthwise relative to the sideframe; and
- (b) a pedestal seat mountable in a pedestal of a sideframe of the railroad car truck, said pedestal seat being for use in combination with at least one other fitting of the self-steering apparatus, said at least one other fitting including at least a bearing adapter; said pedestal seat having a rolling contact engagement surface for orientation toward the wheelset; and the pedestal seat rolling contact engagement surface has a fore-and-aft arcuate profile permitting rolling contact rocking of the wheelset bearing lengthwise relative to the sideframe.

72. (Currently Amended) ~~The self-steering apparatus fitting~~ subject matter of claim 71 wherein said at least one self-steering apparatus fitting is the bearing adapter of part (a) of claim 71.

73. (Previously Presented) The self-steering apparatus fitting of claim 72 wherein said bearing adapter has axially spaced arches for seating on a bearing having an axis of rotation, and said bearing adapter rolling contact engagement surface is one of (a) a spherical surface; and (b) a surface having a curvature formed on a body of revolution having an axis parallel to the axis of the bearing.

74. (Currently Amended) ~~The self-steering apparatus fitting~~ subject matter of claim 71 wherein said at least one self-steering apparatus fitting is the pedestal seat of part (b) of claim 71.

75. (Previously Presented) The self-steering apparatus fitting of claim 74 wherein said pedestal seat mounts in a sideframe, the sideframe having a long dimension defining a longitudinal axis, and said pedestal seat rolling contact engagement surface is one of (a) a spherical surface; and (b) a surface having a curvature formed on a body of revolution having an axis cross-wise to the longitudinal axis of the sideframe.

76. (Previously Presented) The self-steering apparatus fitting of claim 71 wherein said rolling contact engagement surface having said fore-and-aft arcuate profile also has a cross-wise arcuate profile.

77. (Previously Presented) A combination of a first fitting according to claim 71, and a mating second fitting having another rolling contact engagement surface orientable on installation to mate with said rolling contact engagement surface having said fore-and-aft arcuate profile, and, when installed in a railroad car truck and co-operatively engaged, said first fitting and said mating second fitting being operable to provide self-steering.

78. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 77 further including a third fitting, said third fitting being a resilient member mountable in co-operation with at least one of (a) said first fitting, and (b) said second fitting; and said third fitting being operable to urge said first and second fittings to a centered position relative to each other.

79. (Previously Presented) A combination of the bearing adapter of part (a) of claim 71, and the pedestal seat of part (b) of claim 71, said bearing adapter and said pedestal seat being matingly engageable on installation to permit fore-and-aft rolling contact rocking therebetween.

80. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 79 wherein said pedestal seat and said bearing adapter are also engageable to rock laterally in rolling contact with respect to one another.

81. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 80 wherein the rolling contact engagement surface of at least one of (i) said bearing adapter and (ii) said pedestal seat is formed on a compound surface.

82. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 80 wherein any said rolling contact engagement surface includes a spherical portion.

83. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 79 including at least a third fitting, said third fitting being a resilient member mountable to urge said bearing adapter and said pedestal seat to a centered position relative to each other.

84. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 83 wherein the bearing adapter has an end wall, and said third fitting is formed to seat between that end wall and a thrust lug of a sideframe pedestal.

85. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 83 wherein the bearing adapter has at least one end wall, and said third fitting has a first portion for seating adjacent said end wall, and a second portion at least partially overlying said bearing adapter, said second portion having a relief formed therein to accommodate rocking engagement of said bearing adapter with said pedestal seat.

86. (Currently Amended) The self-steering apparatus fitting of claim 71 wherein said fitting is one of:

- (i) the bearing adapter of part (a) of claim 71, said bearing adapter having a pair of spaced apart arches for seating on a bearing casing, and said rolling contact engagement surface is a rocker having both lengthwise and cross-wise radii of curvature; and
- (ii) the pedestal seat of part (b) of claim 71, and said rolling contact engagement surface is a rocker having both lengthwise and cross-wise radii of curvature.

87. (Currently Amended) The self-steering apparatus fitting of claim 71 wherein said fitting is the bearing adapter of part (a) of claim 71, for seating on a roller bearing that has first and second axially spaced apart roller bearing races enclosed within a casing, and said bearing adapter has first and second arches engageable with first and second end regions of the bearing casing, the bearing races being straddled between the arches; and a land for engaging the casing, said land extending between the arches and being relieved at locations above top dead center of the bearing races.

88. (Currently Amended) In combination, (i) the at least one self-steering apparatus fitting of claim 71 wherein said fitting is the bearing adapter of part (a) of claim 71; and (ii) a roller bearing, the bearing adapter being for seating on the roller bearing; wherein said bearing has first and second axially spaced apart roller bearing races enclosed within a casing, and said bearing adapter has first and second arches engageable with first and second end regions of the bearing

casing, the bearing races being straddled between the arches; said bearing adapter has a land for engaging the casing, said land extending between the arches, said land having at least one relief, said bearing adapter being mounted on said bearing with said at least one relief being positioned axially to sit abreast of, and to overlie, top dead center of at least one of said bearing races.

89. (Previously Presented) A combination of a bearing adapter, a pedestal seat, and a resilient pad for use with the bearing adapter; at least one of (a) said bearing adapter and (b) said pedestal seat being the fitting according to claim 71, wherein the bearing adapter and the pedestal seat have respective mutually engageable rolling contact surfaces, said resilient pad has a first portion for engaging a first end of the bearing adapter, a second portion for engaging a second end of the bearing adapter, and a medial portion between said first and second end portions, said medial portion being formed to accommodate mating engagement of the rocker members.

90. (Previously Presented) At least one of:

- (i) a bearing adapter for a railroad car truck, said bearing adapter having a pair of arches for seating on the casing of a bearing, said arches being spaced on an axis, and an upwardly facing rolling contact surface for engagement with a mating rolling contact rocking element, said bearing adapter rolling contact surface having a curvature that is one of (a) spherical; and (b) formed about an axis of a body of revolution, said body of revolution having an axis of revolution parallel to said axis of said arches; and
- (ii) a pedestal seat mountable in a sideframe pedestal of a railroad car truck sideframe, the sideframe having a long dimension defining a longitudinal axis, said pedestal seat having a rolling contact surface for engagement with a mating rolling contact element, said pedestal seat rolling contact surface having a curvature that is one of (a) spherical; and (b) formed about an axis of a body of revolution, said body of revolution having an axis of revolution cross-wise to said longitudinal axis.

91. (Previously Presented) Both the bearing adapter of part (i) of claim 90 and the pedestal seat of part (ii) of claim 90 wherein said bearing adapter and said pedestal seat mate in rolling contact.

92. (Previously Presented) The subject matter of claim 90 in combination with a railroad car truck wheelset bearing.

93. (Previously Presented) The subject matter of claim 90 in combination with a resilient centering member mounted to urge that subject matter to a neutral at rest position.

94. (Previously Presented) A bearing adapter according to part (i) of claim 90 in combination with a railroad car truck wheelset bearing, the bearing having a pair of axially spaced apart, circumferentially extending bearing races contained within a casing, and the bearing adapter having at least one underside relief formed therein, said bearing adapter mating with said casing in use with said relief overlying top dead center of at least one of said bearing races.

Claims 95 – 194 (Cancelled)